

Record and Chronicle

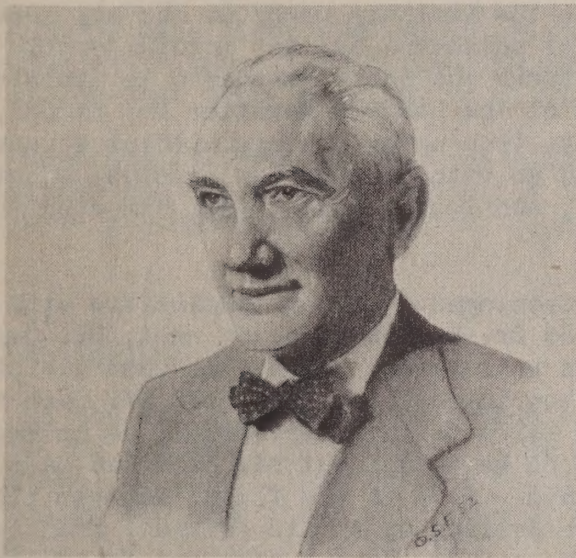
Published by
THE HOSPITAL FOR SPECIAL SURGERY
for the
Members of our Staff and Personnel

VOLUME VII

APRIL 1952

NO. 4

HOSPITAL PROFILES: DR. KRISTIAN G. HANSSON



The first real glimpse of Dr. Kristian G. Hansson on this side of the Atlantic was a rather gruesome one.

Dr. Hansson was seen gazing into a big open coffin, where a very much alive homo-sapiens lay basking in the sun, for the sands were damp at the Isla de Pinor in the West Indies, and the contents was a polio patient absorbing his ultra violet ray after a course of hydrogymnastics. The only available carpenter being an undertaker, and necessity being the mother of invention, there it was.

Not too many years after this, Dr. Hansson was to be seen in the pool at H.S.S. taking part in yet another form of hydrogymnastics - water polo; (both sexes participated); teams were made up of fair physio maidens and any interested males, and it was strenuous!

Dr. Hansson was born in Sweden at the turn of the century and received his basic training in his native land and France. He accepted an invitation to come to the United States with a polio patient he was treating.

Because of World War I, he was unable to return to Sweden, so went to the West Indies, introduced hydrogymnastics for poliomyelitis patients there, later returning to the United States to launch his medical career.

Once again in the U.S., Dr. Hansson became Director of Physical Education at the New York State School of Physical Education, today known as Ithaca College; enrolled at Cornell University for completion of his studies in preparation for entering Cornell Medical College, from which institution he received his Doctor of Medicine degree in 1923. His training and experience was further supplemented by spending the following 18 months as special intern under Dr. Joseph Hlake of the Reconstruction Hospital in New York City. There he studied the possible application to civilian life of the new procedures that had evolved from the treatment of war casualties.

It was during his medical school days that he first visited 321 East 42nd Street - the Cornell students used to come regularly to watch surgery from the gallery of the operating room. He became interested in our Hospital, and thought he would like to work with us. Soon after he had obtained his degree, opportunity arose when Dr. Gibney, then Surgeon-in-Chief, decided to reorganize our Physical Medicine department which was equipped with a great deal of expensive Zander apparatus but lacked a special M.D. at its head. There was available at the time an older man trained in the use of Zander apparatus, but Dr. Gibney decided to give the appointment to the young and enthusiastic Dr. K.G. -(wise and fortunate choice for us!). There is an amusing reminiscence from that period: when the newly instated chief began to investigate the department and evaluate the patients being treated, he discovered a goodly group who had been coming regularly,

to the baths for twenty years. When Dr. Hanson asked why they continued the treatments so long, they cheerfully replied that no-one had ever told them to stop!

It was at this period or thereabouts that he met and married a Miss Katharine Tappan, of Bostonian background, who helped him to polish away the remnants of his Swedish accent and turn of phrase. In due time they were blessed with a son and two daughters, the latter showing interest in the field of nursing but succumbing to the more enticing charms of matrimony. So that at the present date our Doctor is six times a happy grandfather.

It was along in 1931 or so that another fabled association was born - "The Four Horsemen", who, let others tell it - for some gay years left a flame-colored trail blazing from one A.M.A. convention to the next. The four consisted of Dr. Francis Carr, Dr. Hansson, Dr. Lewis Clarke Wagner and the late Dr. Garfield Snyder, as you can see, a devastating quartet of masculine vim and vigor and pulchritude. It is not difficult to visualize such a combination laying waste the medical meetings, (when attended), golf courses and feminine hearts, not to mention liquor supplies of any city it invaded. The other day we prevailed upon Dr. Wagner to tell us how it all began - "Well", he said, "once upon a time"... Dr. Carr and K.G. asked him to go to the A.M.A. convention in New Orleans with them. He'd never been to one, but they avowed it would be great fun, so he consented, and persuaded them that attending the Kentucky Derby on the way home would make it a really fine adventure. All agreed, Dr. Wagner purchased the not inconsiderable railroad accommodations, and also wired the Governor of Kentucky who nobly responded to the plea of a native son of the Blue Grass by reserving them a box at the Derby. Meantime Dr. Snyder, familiarly known as Pop, then head of the Arthritis Clinic, (you never saw him without a carnation in his buttonhole) was moseying around trying to get to go with them to New Orleans, - but alas, he had not as yet wormed his way into their affections, and they wouldn't tell him when they were going.

Two days before D day, so to speak, Dr. Hansson developed a severe tonsillitis with high temperature, and it was evident he could not travel. So Dr. Wagner said, oh well, Dr. Carr will go anyway - and thus, on the day, was busily packing an hour before train time when his phone rang ominously. It was Mrs. Carr, explaining clearly how impossible it was for Dr. Carr to leave. Poor Dr. Wagner decided to brave it all out and occupy three train reservations, do up New Orleans and the A.M.A., and the Kentucky Derby all by himself, so he thrust out his chin and made for Grand Central. There before the gates his eye brightened - K.G. in the flesh, however ill! Then turning to the right, another apparition - Mrs. Carr delivering up to his friends, Francis Joseph! A rousing "All Aboard", and they were off for Louisiana; and Dr. Wagner observed that with the very first stirrup-cup as you might call it, Dr. Hansson's tonsillitis fled, never to reappear. Oddly enough, too, the train had covered very few miles when Pop Snyder popped up. Well, they let him join them in a bridge game; and that did it. Hence forward, the Four Horsemen went, saw, and conquered from Greenland's icy mountains, - or thereabouts, including the box at the Derby with its eight seats. We don't think the word cramped could ever be applied to their style.

Since 1925, Dr. Hansson has been publicly expressing his observations and recommendations in the field of Physical Medicine. His numerous articles cover a great range of subjects, from massage to arthritis and poliomyelitis and all stress that "it is important to remember that the successful use of exercise is not dependent on elaborate apparatus and that the value of expensive equipment is in direct proportion to the intelligence with which it is used."

For over twenty-five years Dr. Hansson has been on the teaching staff of Cornell Medical College, and Director of Physical Medicine at H.S.S. and New York Hospital. He has contributed valuable services to the U.S. Armed Forces, the American Congress of Physical Medicine, the Red Cross, the Baruch Committee on Physical Medicine, the Association of Crippled Children of New York City - in addition to being consultant for more than half a dozen hospitals in New York City and suburbs. Recently he has been made Director of Occupational Therapy at New York Hospital.

The success attained by Dr. Hansson is due to his understanding of the value of physical and functional activities in the practice of medicine, as well as his desire to convey this understanding to others.

He correlated the knowledge of the basic sciences and applied it to the rehabilitation of the handicapped. Dr. Hansson's early recognition and persistent investigation of "new dangers to health" helped considerable to advance physical medicine.

Many of his young polio patients and more than a few adults ask for Dr. HANDSOME. His posture is a wonderful thing to behold and a splendid example to all of us, especially those who have kyphosis, lordosis, and ptosis. Accompanying his meticulous appearance is a keen mind. He can converse fluently in several languages. His hobbies are sculpture and solving cryptograms, preferably in Hungarian. He is an omnivorous reader of French literature of rather a lighter type than Proust or Hugo.

Proof of his sense of humour and understanding of humanity can be found in his scientific articles, i.e., in a discussion of body mechanics he justifies his repeated injection of "evolution" by saying that "it had been done rather in the spirit of keeping the present generation from becoming monkeys."

All those who have studied under Dr. Hansson are ever grateful for the clarity of his teaching, the excellent organization of his courses, and the helpful hints he gave them which stood by them for many a year.

He is exceptionally patient with regard to his worker's ideas and efforts at gadgets, and he has that good faculty of encouraging true initiative and responsibility. One thing, however, he has never made clear - We would like to know whether it was he who discontinued the routine of having every ambulatory patient in the Hospital propelled to the static room for a static electricity shot every morning, to start the day.

Many patients will recall the kindly manner and gentleness of Dr. Kristian G. Hansson. His evident respect for the complexity of the machinery of each living body he sought to rehabilitate will long be remembered and appreciated.

F. W. & O. F.

SURGICAL RESIDENTS:

On the twentieth of March a daughter, Anne H. Cornell, was born to Dr. and Mrs. George Cornell, at the New York Hospital. The baby weighed in at $5\frac{1}{2}$ pounds, and has been increasing it ever since.....The present residents are leaving as of May 1st, and wish to take this opportunity to thank those with whom we have worked here who have made our stay at H.S.S. so pleasant.

F. R.

HERE WE GO AGAIN:

Two years ago we held a Hobby Show in our Lecture Hall which was enthusiastically supported by our staff and employees. Since then, I have frequently been asked when we are to hold another.

Because a Hobby Show requires tables and cabinets for exhibits which necessarily occupy a great part of the floor space in our busy Lecture Hall, and therefore prevent its use for daily conferences and meetings, we are limited to a show of one day only.

It has been suggested that if we held an exhibition of the photographs, oils, water colors, etchings, etc., by the members of the medical staff and employees of the Hospital, we could cover the walls with the exhibits and leave the Lecture Hall itself available for daily meetings. These exhibits could be left on view for as long as a week, if it was thought desirable.

All who are interested in a show of this kind, and would enter some of their work in it, are asked to notify the Public Relations Department. Such an exhibition would probably be held during the latter part of May.

J. C. H.

LABORATORY:

The Laboratory is suffering from complete sterility of mind...consequently we have naught but these few words to say... Mrs. Eleanor Lyden, better known as Miss Walsh, the Lab reluctantly lets free of its firm grasp after 23 years of faithful service. Sorry to see you go, Miss Walsh, best wishes, and good luck with ELSIE.....Rose, the Lab is as busy as a bee-hive, we all miss you - please hurry back.

Vandal



Bet you thought that if we looked into the Easter Egg we would only see infusions, transfusions, balkan frames, plaster casts, needle a s syringes, but we fooled you, as you can see above.....By the way, how do you like the new sterile supplies you are getting from central supply?.....What's the new pussy's name, Mrs. Reymers? Has he purred his way to your heart?.....The nursing regrets to hear that Miss Walsh is leaving the Lab staff..... Who are the two young lovelies waiting for the men in their lives to "pass the bar"? --Exams, I mean.....We hear the lady on the main floor has her Easter bonnet of navy and veiling ready for the Easter parade.....We wish to extend our sympathy to Miss Inez Ilaw... ..The Easter Bunny Party given by Kathi Norris and her daughter, Pamela, on 30 for the children was a merry one, with Easter bunnies for each little patient.....Were you there that Sunday at H.S.S. when all the third floor thought perhaps they had walked into a TV studio instead of being on duty? And who was the glamorous young nurse who passed in front of the screen inadvertently making all the technicians whistle? Really, who was it?...Miss Sieminski we know, became a TV star in one shot..... We welcome two new graduates to the staff. Mrs. Florence Infantino to the four to twelve shift, and Miss Alice Hallett to M.O.R. Also, other newcomers to our staff are Miss Lorraine Kimble and Miss Ruby Reeves to night duty, Mrs. Mary Lally and Miss Dorothy Pinder to day duty.....The stork will be visiting one of our graduates. Good luck, Miss K., and here's hoping it's a (?).

K. H.

It Wouldn't Seem Right If:

1. We did not mention Dr. Hoover's coat of tan.
2. We did not mention a certain Miss who is taking up star-reading.
3. Miss Brady was not the next golf champion.
4. We did not mention the new charge o' plate system.
5. Miss Shields was not giving her tanks tender care.
6. We did not mention the Easter display at the Corner Shop.
7. Phil was not whistling some mystic tune!

B. Mc M.

News Items and Music Notes:

It's lilac time again! Through the windows, open to the Spring breezes, the Hospital is pervaded not by the ineffable fragrance of lilacs, but by the incessant clattering clamor of the U.N. activities--so one must stroll through the park on these lovely Spring days to get a whiff of these luscious white and purple lilacs - or - the Bingler Vacation Tours, Inc., 203 West 41st Street (WI 7-5550) offers very nice weekend tours and day trips. Montauk Point, Valley Forge and dogwood blossoms, the Peach Blossom Festival at Hammonton, New Jersey, The Longwood Gardens near Kennett Square, Pa., are a few of the tours on the Bingler list. Reservations are requested in advance. Fares are reasonable and the trips are well planned. Monthly bulletins are sent upon request.....This should be a busy, merry month, with so much going on. The circus is in town until May 11th, at the Madison Square Garden.... Those who love the circus should read "Circus Doctor" by T. Y. Henderson and Richard Taplinger. "Hey Doc" Henderson, (Chief Veterinarian for the Circus) while offering a very fascinating description of the care and training of the animals, also gives a picture of circus folks and circus life.....You will never feel

detached at the circus after reading "Circus Doctor.".....Outstanding examples of oils, watercolors, and drawings by Paul Cezanne have been brought together from half a dozen European countries, South Africa, Brazil and the United States to make up a truly remarkable exhibit which will continue through May 18th, at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. There is an admission charge of fifty cents except on Mondays. The Museum will be open on Wednesdays till 9 P.M. and on Sundays until 7 P.M.....The New York Public Library is showing two photographic exhibits. Gerda Peterich's portraits of personalities associated with the Modern dance and ballet is at the 121 East 58th Street branch through April, and Barbara Morgan's photographs from her book entitled "Summer's Children" at the Central Branch (Children's Room) at Fifth Avenue and 42nd Street, through May 17th.....Pearl Primus and Company in a full length program of native African music and dance (Dark Rhythm) will complete this years series of "Around the World with Dance and Song" at the Museum of Natural History on May 15th.....The Juilliard School of Music is presenting the inimitable Martha Graham in six performances at the Juilliard Concert Hall from April 22nd through April 27th.. Seats from \$3.00 to \$4.50. Tickets may be secured at Steinway Hall box office, 113 West 57th Street.....The Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences have set up a new dance center under the title of "Theatre for Dance." An initial program will be given on April 22nd at the Brooklyn Academy of Music by Jean Erdman, Merc Cunningham, Erich Hawkins, and Donald McKayle....."A Spring Festival of Comedy" has been announced by the New York City Theatre Company. "The Male Animal" by James Thurber and Elliot Nugent, from April 30th to May 11th; "Tovarich" by Jacques Deval from May 14th to 25th; "First Lady" by Katherine Dayton and George S. Kaufman from May 28th to June 8th. Top notch stars are in all three plays. Tickets for single admission or three play subscription may be purchased at New York City Centre box office, 131 West 55th Street, starting April 24th.....The Amato Opera Theatre, 159 Bleeker Street, offers many of the popular operas, for free - better call GR 7-2844, or write for reservations in advance, or you are apt to be disappointed.....Don't forget the Biennial Nurses Convention in Atlantic City, June 16th to 20th. For details about registration see the American Journal of Nursing, March 1952, p. 342.....S'all for now. Enjoy yourself.

D. L. Q.

DIETARY DEPARTMENT

From the Kitchen: The "bad news" of last month has changed to a more cheerful note. All the injured are now back at work except Mrs. Anna Manning. She returns shortly to Pp4 pantry..... Another of our members, May Fehlandt, was recently a patient on 4C. She returned to work feeling much better.....A short trial run of "Airline" food service was instituted on ward 4C. It was an attempt to discover whether such a tray service would be efficient in our new Hospital.. The Easter Bunny has been hard at work preparing for a gala Easter Day dinner. We hope everyone has a joyous Easter!

J. I.

CLINIC NOTES:

We had a most pleasant surprise visit a few weeks ago with the coming of Miss Francis Howard enroute to some unpronounceable place in South Africa. We were glad to see her. She is the globe-trotting, lecturer-sister of our former Chief of Clinic, Miss Isabelle Howard, who left us two years ago. Francis told us that Isabelle is quite happy, and contented in her work though it took her some time to get used to handling student nurses after years of experience with graduate ones. She is well liked by her young students, and loves her work now. We salute Miss Isabelle Howard! --She has only one sorrow. Mr. Archibald has disappeared!! Mrs. Niggs is without her consort! Dr. Geiger please note.....We sincerely regret the resignation of Miss Ellen Dunn, assistant cashier to Mrs. Anne Schoppman. She was such a naive pretty that we all loved to see around. We welcome Miss Barbara Schiff as her successor. It is a tough job, Miss Schiff, but we all know that you will come through on top.....And, through the grape-vine we have heard that Mrs. James Sheriden, nee Hennigan, of Plaster Room, is still honey-mooning in Florida; has a beautiful tan, gotten a little fat, and enjoying herself immensely. And very much in love.....That is about all for now.

S. S.

VOLUNTEER DEPARTMENT:

May is the Volunteer Awards month, so I have been asked to tell a little about the Volunteers and the work they do.

The practice of having a hospital volunteer service was first started in 1863, during the Civil War, when they were known as the "Ladies of Mercy." The Blue Coats, as our Hospital for Special Surgery Volunteers are known, first became active here in 1931. In 1938 we had from twenty to thirty volunteers, as compared to seventy-seven today. During World War II, when operating at capacity, we had as many as 475 volunteer workers.

With World War II came the need for help in many departments of the Hospital, and the Volunteer Service grew to fill this need, averaging over three hundred a year, serving in many capacities. We had our regular Blue Coats, supplemented by American Red Cross Nurses Aides, Dieticians, Canteen Aides, Grey Ladies; American Women's Voluntary Service; American Women's Hospital Reserve Corp; United Hospital Library Workers, Case-Aides; therapists from the American Therapy Association, and student Laboratory Technicians from Hunter College. With the exception of the Blue Coats, who received training here, all had received their training from their own headquarters. Also, during this period we had many men - bankers, business men, professionals - (one of these a well known artist) - who came in the evening to do orderly work in the wards. One of these men is still active with us, having given thousands of hours. It is needless to say that the Volunteer Office was kept busy during those years especially, correlating the services of all the volunteer workers who were helping in almost every department of the Hospital. Some of these posts were discontinued after the war, as the man-power shortage declined.

At present we are in at least eight posts each day, and often as many as sixteen. These include: Clinics, Wards, Information Desk, Photography, Record Room, Accounting, Civil Defense, Corner Shop, Operating Room, Public Relations, Libraries, Gym and Physio, Occupational Therapy, Purchasing Department, among others, performing every type of service to help lessen the burden on trained personnel and technicians and to offer diversion and companionship to the patients.

Each volunteer is interviewed before placement, and much thought is given to the selection of her post, taking into consideration what would be best for her and her service to the Hospital. Most volunteers offer their services after they, or someone close to them has been helped by the Hospital, or their interest in our work has been aroused in some other way. We are working together with the Volunteer Placement Bureau of the United Hospital Fund and with Mrs. Thomas, Director of Volunteers at New York Hospital. Most of our volunteers are very faithful to us, many of them serving for over ten years. Many adjustments must be made, as this work is, of necessity, at the convenience of the worker, and it is often necessary to change posts or time. When the phone rings in the morning as a list of volunteers for the day is being compiled to give to the Head Nurse of Clinics, it usually means that something unexpected has come up, and the regular volunteer cannot fill her post. This means sending someone else to do her job - (most times the Assistant Volunteer Director springs to the job.)

In the past, chevrons were worn on sleeves to indicate the amount of time a volunteer had given. In 1945, H.S.S. began making awards of pins and bars to those who served here, in addition to pins awarded by the United Hospital Fund. A pin is given to those who have given 150 hours of service within a two-year period. To those who have served 1,150 accumulated hours a white bar is awarded by the Hospital for Special Surgery; for 2,150, a blue bar, and for 5,150 a gold bar. The United Hospital Fund divide their time after the minimum of 500 hours, into the next category of 650, which merits a gilt bar, 1,150 a cross, then the highest, 10,150 - a pin on a white cross. These awards are made in our Hospital at a tea held in the Lecture Hall usually during the month of May, and by the United Hospital Fund at the Hotel Astor, also in May.

We feel that the Blue Coats of H.S.S. have made an excellent record, growing to meet the needs of the Hospital in an emergency, and continuing their faithful service in more normal times. It has been said a good volunteer is an intelligent pair of hands and feet, a smile, and a desire to help. We shall all try to keep this true as we go about our work in the Hospital.

C. A. E.

Why Hamlet, Prince of Denmark, had
Severe attacks of spleen:
(It could make anyone feel bad)
NO DANISH PASTRY THEN.

In spring a man's fancy turns to love
A woman's to a hat, by Jove.

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL MEDICINE:

Well, April Fools Day has been and gone. There were not too many sufferers from pranks customary on this day - except one Edith Friberg. She has a sorry tale to tell. She absolutely couldn't find any of her things. After opening and shutting (yes, that was the explosive noise you heard that day,) every locker in the place, she finally found everything, and in absolute "apple-pie" order. She'll never be the same again, though..... We are happy to report that we in the pool are as good as everybody else now, since we are situated on the GROUND floor, and cannot be referred to as "the ones from 'down under'.".....We are also happy to have Mr. George Bloomer to our Tuesday Nite Clinic sessions. It's very nice having you with us, George.....If you should take a stroll (as an honored visitor, I hope,) through our department one of these days, you will find a lot of things there you haven't seen before. That is our new shortwave machines. They were purchased from the Burdick Company, and are really wonderful, - but please, don't everybody want to try them out all at once! Oh, and I almost forgot - Shakespeare Nielson has graciously consented to help me do the reporting job for this department. Am I glad to have someone like "The Bard" to help me. Here is a little poem singing the praises of our new machines, and everyone who helped in getting them for us:

TITLE: Nothing Is New Under The Sun
 Except Possibly A Squarebore Gun.

HERE GOES: We also except a magnificent shipment
 Of supradelicious short wave equipment
 We just have received, it defies all description
 Does not even function without a prescription.
 We pay our respects to our Board of Directors
 And also, we congratulate the selectors
 And if, as we think, there might be no objectors,
 Let us turn on the heat on the Burdick collectors.

E. N. & L. T.

UP IN THE SCHOOLROOM:

Spring has arrived at last! The long dreary days of Winter have passed and everyone is getting ready for Spring. Being right in the midst of our "Spring house-cleaning," the schoolroom looks rather bare now, but come up to see us in a few days, and a prettier schoolroom you never will have seen!

Upon our walls are signs of Spring, which only yesterday held Winter scenes. We are all in an "art" mood these days because Easter is near and also because of the vacation. Some of us are making Easter posters, while others are decorating the windows. (We like to have them artistically decorated all the year round.)

Last week, there occurred a cute incident and I thought you would like to read about it. As the children were getting their books, little Joyce turned to Phyllis and said, "Now, Phyllis, what do you think we ought to do this morning?" The decision was to concentrate on the "three R's." With that, Joyce passed out the pencils and paper to the rest of the children. School began! Joyce took over from that point. You can imagine what an interesting sight the little group made!

Did you wonder what the noise was in our classroom last Wednesday? We were singing, believe it or not, and the song was, "Here Comes Peter Cottontail." It's a good song for Easter and it also helped to drown out the noise from the outside! (Our schoolroom motto is: "Sing while you work.")

Heard among the ward students:

"School here in the Hospital is very interesting because we have a chance to catch up on our weaker subjects, due to the individual teaching we receive."

Charlotte Young, Ward 3A

"I like the school here in the Hospital because when you are in bed for a long time, it keeps your mind occupied and it keeps your work up with your other school."

Helen Berman, Ward 3A

So long; see you next trip!

Sandy Helton, Ward 3A

CEREBRAL PALSY DEPARTMENT:

The Cerebral Palsy Institute is keeping us busy with visitors and students; not a week passes without our seeing six or eight new faces. This growing interest in and realization of cerebral palsy is gratifying to all of us. We are, of course, very lucky in that these students are professional people who want to learn more and who are sincerely interested in the problems connected with this disease.....The third issue of The Go-Between is out, growing by leaps and bounds--ten pages this time. One of the articles from the March issue has been reprinted in an out-of-state paper. We are mighty proud. If you haven't seen The Go-Between yet, come up and get a copy.

L. M. & L. D.

RECORD ROOM:

An epidemic of wanderlust has once again attacked the Record Room. So far, those smitten have been Sylvia and Faith. As far as we know, Sylvia is cavorting around New York in search of some finer field of endeavor, (which she has no doubt found by now). We all wish her lots of luck. As for our other amazon, Faith, Hope & Charity, she took no chances on running into any of us around town-- she hopped a plane last Saturday nite and by this time is happily ensconced in sunny California giving not a thought to all her old partners-in-crime who are left behind to carry on as best we can sans the ready wit, the grotesque gesticulations, the many pranks, and last but by no means least, the "protection" which she constantly afforded. Of course, we all miss her tremendously, but I think that the department that is taking her departure the hardest is the one where the Hospital's most eligible bachelor hangs his hat. Every afternoon along about four o'clock when one by one, the Record Room girls stagger wearily in to pay their respects to Dr. Lewis, we find, sitting despondently in the corner, head hung low upon his manly bosom, none other than her own Walter, Walter, lead-me-to-the-alter, Shulz.....Last Friday night we used the above mentioned Faith's departure as an excuse to have ourselves a slight brawl. We very cagily arranged a dinner party at the Hotel New Yorker. Faith came stalking in to work on Friday morning all done up in a black cocktail gown with that "I know you're going to give me a surprise party" look in her eye, and went merrily about her usual day's loafing. Imagine the hurt look on her face when minute by minute ticked away to five o'clock and her departure was commemorated solely by the presentation of nothing more than a little old half slip--what a let-down! After much conniving, scheming, and prevaricating, two of our more talented members somehow managed to drag the sobbing, heartbroken Faith away from her beloved Record Room (joke) and turned up an hour later at the New Yorker where everybody was assembled (what they did with her in that hour is a good question). The party was quite a success but not without its pitfalls--\$2 short per person.....We would like to welcome to our midst three new girls: Miss Helen Sacks, Miss Lenore Olefson, and Miss Anne Toteda. We hope that their stay will be a long and merry one.

J. B.

PATIENTS' LIBRARIES:

In your Libraries, during the month of March, a real spring cleaning was in operation. Many old books were withdrawn, new ones added. A rearrangement of the room made to allow for more reading space, and a general reorganization went into effect. The Libraries have been greatly improved in appearance and we are feeling proud of the result of many hours of volunteer work to accomplish it, plus a record circulation.

A. G. O.

APRILFOOLERY:

Showers in April bring flowers in May;
They also make drycleaners happy and gay.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY:

The O.T. Department is very unhappy to state that Mrs. Mavis Jemielita is leaving us at the end of this month. She will be missed throughout the Hospital, especially on the Polio ward. Her excellent work with the polio patients and in the shop has done much to build up the department. She is leaving us to become the director of the O.T. Department at Beth Israel Hospital, and we all wish her success.

D. N.

INFORMATION DESK & SWITCHBOARD:

Mr. Young considers this department to be the jinxed department; it certainly is, in more ways than one. We started the month of March off as usual with a whirl, and with Miss Evelyn Tappa out for two weeks. Then, lo and behold, our own Anne Quigley, while doing her domestic chores at home, fell in her kitchen and sprained her ankle, forcing her to the side-lines for a week. This left the board in the capable hands of Miss Weber and our relief operator, Mrs. Mary Sutton, who has recently been escorted about the building on Saturdays, being shown the difference between hydrotherapy, physiotherapy and a lot of other therapies. This week also found your reporter working at the switchboard during the day, where he found some reasons why telephone operators sometimes go beserk due to the way people ask questions. They ask for a doctor like this: "I want to speak to the doctor from the South who was very nice to me one night in the Emergency Room about six months ago." Now, does anyone know who this is? Then an outside call sounds like this: "Can you tell me if Dr. Turkle will be in the crippled back clinic today? ... This is the funny side of the job, but the main part of making the hospital telephone system work is cooperation on the part of all hospital personnel..... Now to the Information Desk, where we find Mr. Ted Burkle back at his post after a little fight with the virus bug. Everybody is happy to see his smiling face again.....I'd like to mention the fact that we have royalty working among us. Mr. Jacques Ornstein, our walking dictionary (he uses his two dollar words on Sundays and his fifty cent words during the week) traces his line from the Kings of Bohemia, Maximilian vonOrnstein, getting his reference from Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's "A Scandal in Bohemia.".....Except for the preceeding, the department is running along normally. We expect to have a few more ups and downs before the month is over, especially with Spring on the way, when a young man's, as well as a young girl's fancy, lightly turns to thoughts other than work.

T. C.

FROM THE CORNER SHOP:

Now that we are approaching Easter, Miss Bannerman of the Ladies' Auxiliary has done herself up proud in dressing the shop in the true Easter spirit. Paper baskets, Bunnies, and a variety of paper Easter eggs appear all over the Shop, giving it the glory and beauty of Spring. Mrs. Ochs and Mrs. Pearson are very happy with the new paint job that has been given to the Shop which harmonizes with the decor in the clinic waiting room. The Corner Shop has a good selection of gifts for patients - anything from plates to sterling silver. You can also buy a variety of magazines (from comics to tax manuals) -let it not be said that this is going from the ridiculous to the sublime. Twice a week, a volunteer goes around the building with a gaily decorated cart bringing magazines, cookies, and other goodies from the Shop to all the patients who are unable to come to the Shop itself. By the way, girls, we have stockings as regular merchandise now, so why not buy them here- not at wholesale price, but at the good old retail price. We appreciate your patronage.

T. C.

MOVIE SCHEDULE:

If you are interested in learning what films are to be shown on the coming Fridays, come to the third floor - a bulletin board outside the Public Relations office will have the films listed, as well as the stars who appear in them, and short synopses of the plots.

ORTHOPEDIC RESIDENTS:

We are very pleased to have some new material to write about, because there is no doubt that everyone has long since lost their appetite for the old cheese used for bait so often before..... We would like to report the addition of two new residents: Charles Skreczko and Tony Apuzzo: Our boy Charles: Born Shelton, Connecticut, 19th or 20th century??? Obtained numerous degrees at Bates College in Lewiston, Maine, and Jefferson Medical School in Philadelphia; served general internship and surgical residency in New Britain, Connecticut; one year at Shelton in general practice; Army for five years in South Pacific, (Australia, New Guinea, Dutch West Indies); general practice at Shelton 1946 for five years, including surgery and obstetrics; began three year orthopedic residency in July, 1951, and has been at Bronx VA Hospital for nine months before coming here. He is married and has twins, a boy and a girl, age 10. He is reputed to have very athletic feet and to be an athletic supporter. The significance of the bushy yellow mustache is still under investigation. He is called Dapper Dan by his friends and all acquaintances and his bright ties are even a match for Rolla Campbell's.....Our Boy Tony: Born in New Haven; honor society at Bucknell University and Tuft's Medical School; two years rotating internship at St. Vincent's Hospital, Bridgeport, Connecticut; served in Navy, '41 to '46, (North Atlantic Fleet, Newfoundland "ugh", Greenland, "ouch", and Iceland, "york", and Trinidad, "?"); general practice in Bridgeport for four years; Graduate School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, where he studied under Professor Gatti, eminent orthopedic surgeon, for one year; Bronx VA Hospital for nine months before arriving in the United States. He is married and has one good looking boy of 5½, the image of Mrs. A. Dr. Apuzzo holds the rank of Commander in the United States Naval Reserve but he wants everyone to know that he never pulls his rank. Hope has been expressed that he will call from his great experience in the far North to lecture on how Eskimo Pies are different from Bungalow Bars.....We are simply delighted to have these gentlemen with us, (under the existing statutes, every man is a gentleman unless proved otherwise). It is interesting to note that both had been well established in general practice for several years before deciding to turn to orthopedics. According to one of them, he did this both because of an interest in orthopedics and because of the trend to specialization, ("signs of the times"), which has been increasingly to bar the GP from hospital practice. It is nice to know that orthopedics became a first choice with these doctors who have had such a wide experience in the general practice of medicine, surgery, and obstetrics, because, if anyone were in a position to judge among the specialties, it would have to be someone who had done "everything", ("wow!"). It is certainly to the credit of these seniors that they had enough bounce-to-the-ounce left to return to a three year residency with the well known sacrifice of time, energy, and financial opportunity-cost involved. Remember, boys, the accident room is like you-know-what; when inevitable, relax and enjoy it.....Christopher Guarino, following the pattern of his uncle Columbus, will soon set sail with a new crew, heading for Bermuda with all sheets to the wind, and he wants everyone to know that he is ready!! For the convenience of the radio audience, wedding presents will reach him at this address until May 10th..... We are happy to announce that Dr. Philip ("Muscles") Lichtblau, widely known humorist, has been elected to take over the authorship of this column, whether he likes it or not. Thank you Dr. Lichtblau. Cheers.....

PL & RC

AMONG OURSELVES:

This column should be entitled "Happy Birthday". Just everyone is having them now it seems. We want to extend belated good wishes to Dorothy Newman and also to Dr. C. R. Stevenson who both celebrated birthdays in March.....Also in the realm of "birthdays", we heard about two very new ones. Philip Daveiga, our well known and well liked elevator operator, became a proud papa via a cute little girl born on March 22nd. We are told she's been named Shron. No need to ask who's your girl now, Phil.....Mr. Bohleber, of Purchasing and Receiving, also celebrated a "birthday"-- that of a brand new grandson, Daniel Bohleber III, who arrived April 4th..... Another happy member of that department is Maryann Michael. Lucky girl is going to spend Easter Sunday with her husband, courtesy of the U.S. Marine Corps.....Congratulations to Mr. Kenneth Young, husband of our Social Service worker, who has created quite a stir with his invention of a new method for washing windows on skyscrapers. It is now in use at the new Lever Bros. building at Park Avenue and 43 Street, and is really ingenious.....We are sorry to report that Rose Iacovino of the Lab has been admitted; hope you'll soon be back on your feet again.

MICHAEL DEVINE (1878 - 1952)

With the passing of Mike Devine on March 24, 1952 all of us here lost a true personal friend and the Hospital, a loyal and conscientious employee. I regret that writing is not one of my accomplishments. If it was, I would like to write an article entitled, "The Most Unforgettable Character I Have Ever Met". Mike would be that character. It is only a year ago last March that Mike's Profile appeared in the Record & Chronicle. In trying to gather my thoughts to write about my friend, Mike, I reread this article. It seemed to me that it deserves another reading by all his friends. Therefore, we are printing below an abstract of this Profile. God rest you happy gentleman.

F. W. K.

" Those of us who come hurrying to work between 8:30 and 9:00 each morning would surely feel lost if the day came when we did not hear either from somewhere along the sidewalk or from somewhere in the rhododendrom bushes that pleasant "Good mornin" from an elderly but chipper looking man whom we all consider as much an institution as the Hospital itself. Michael Devine, at this time of day is hurrying too, to help members of the staff find parking spaces (the toughest job there is), or to help the Housekeeping Department keep our bushes free of weeds, old papers and other refuse. Come nine o'clock and Mike can be found rushing coffee to certain first floor inhabitants, and shortly thereafter he is seen rushing away from the Record Room and off to a day in Court where in his capacity as official Hospital messenger, he delivers and watches with an eagle eye, Hospital records that have been subpoenaed in connection with legal doings of former patients. Those of us whose contact with Mike ends there may be surprised to know that despite his lilting brogue, Mike Devine was born in Kansas City, Missouri, somewhere around 1878, and despite our tendency to think of him as someone who has been with us from time immemorial, his life history is probably more full of adventure than the description of an author's background, found on the jacket of a novel. When Mike was a year old, his father, a railroad engineer, was killed in an accident, and Mike's mother took her brood of three girls and a boy to her mother's home in Ireland where in due time Mike started to school in Kilkee, County Clare. At the tender age of ten, Mike was placed in the Christian Brothers School in Limerick, and three years later, he started studying at the Seminary administered by the same Brotherhood with a view to becoming a lay brother. However, Mike says that after a year he felt this was not his vocation and he left both the Seminary and Ireland and went to Glasgow, to stay with an uncle.

In Glasgow at the ripe age of 15, he found a job with the Transatlantic Film Company as a cameraman and for the next ten or fifteen years he travelled around the British Isles shooting and showing films. One of his employees at this time was a young lass later to become Mrs. John Strasde, wife of our head cook. While working in Greenoch in 1909, Mike married an ex-school-teacher named Margaret McGowan, and at about the same time he enlisted in the British Territorial Army which is similar to our National Guard. When World War I broke out, Mike had reached the rank of Sergeant and was promptly called and given duty with the King's Own Scottish Regiment. This unit saw active duty all across France, including such places as the Marne where Mike says Dr. Fenwick Beekman was serving at the same time with an American unit - but Mike hastens to add that he did not know Dr. Beekman at that time. After being invalided home and returned to duty, Mike was sent off to serve at Gallipoli with Kitchener's Army and after that he was sent back to northern Scotland to train recruits. Finally mustered out in 1919, in November of that year Mike took off once again, this time for America, leaving his wife and two children in Scotland until he could find work and a home in which to settle his family. He settled himself in a room on 34th Street near Third Avenue and while hunting for a permanent position took a temporary job working three nights a week as elevator operator at a hospital on 42nd street where his boss was a Mr. Murray, father of our Mrs. Donohue of the Accounting Department. Mike says this was the lonliest period of his life - his sisters were in this country, but working in Connecticut, he had no permanent job, and was so homesick for his family he had no intention of staying once his temporary job ended. It seems though, that even in 1920, once at R. & C. always at R. & C., for on January 4, 1920, Mike Devine was permanently employed at the Ruptured and Crippled Hospital where for the next four years he operated the west elevator.

In 1924, Mike, having proved his conscientiousness, was given charge of elevator operators and porters, which he reports was a strenuous job in those days, what with unreliable employees, imbibing employees, and sometimes no employees at all. When the man assigned to Court work failed to report one day, and there was no one else to go, Mike took on this job too, and thenceforth often went to Court all day and operated an elevator or cleaned all night. Speaking frankly, he says, "Sure and all the place was on its ear in thim days." In 1929 Mike brought his family over from Scotland, moved out of the Hospital where he had resided, and settled down

in the Bronx where he has made his home ever since. Meanwhile the business of bringing records to Court had increased in volume and the difficulty of finding an employee who would go to Court without touring via Third Avenue pubs, resulted in more and more of Mike's time being used for this job and in 1930 he became a full time Court Messenger with hours more normal than the sixteen per day he had been putting in for so long.

For the last twenty years Mike has continued in this job which can best be described in his own words - 'I represent the house in Court'. He is very proud of his work which consists of delivering confidential patients' records to Court, testifying that they are true and original records, and verifying signatures of the attending staff. Once Mike has so testified, the record may be introduced as evidence. The majority of these cases pertain to personal accidents in which the plaintiff was involved, and when suit is in an amount up to \$3,000 the case is heard in Municipal Court, whereas suits in excess of \$3,000 go to the New York State Supreme Court. Mike's travels take him to such places as White Plains, Freehold, N.J. and the far reaches of Long Island. If there is no record to be found in our Record Room, Mike must attend Court and solemnly swear that we have no such record. He says there are many interesting cases; not long ago one of our former patients was awarded \$107,000, and more recently, a lady hit by an ice truck won \$38,000. However, working conditions are not always A-1 in this field either, and Mike says he must often wait in Court all day before he is called and sometimes after so much waiting he is told to come back another day. But, he observes, 'There isn't an attorney in New York I don't know', and mentions Tom O' Neil, Gus Rosenberg, Mike Hayes, as being among his well known daily contacts.

So there you have one of our favorite employees - ex-cameraman, ex-boxer, ex-Sergeant in the British Army, official representative of the "house" in the New York State Courts of Law, and an obliging if breathless errand runner."

E. B.

